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Destruction of sculptures, tablets, public buildings and such monuments has increased in proportion to the growth of communications. Since the opening of the railway to Nankou irreparable damage has been done to the monoliths at the Ming Tombs and six of these are virtually ruined. A temple in Peking has been closed to foreigners and the closing of the Temple of Heaven has been threatened on account of vandalism. Depredations have taken place at two other capitals, Mukden and Sian-fu. At Nanking visitors are actively destroying the sculptures at the Ming Tombs by pounding them with stones and cutting names in them. Chinan-fu, K'ai-feng-fu and Honan-fu are now reached by rail and the antiquities there are likewise henceforth exposed to the depredations of visitors. Numerous other instances of mutilation are reported at Tsi-ning-chou in Shantung, in the Western Hills near Peking, and active destruction is going on at Hang-chow, and other places.

In view of these facts and of the responsibility of all concerned the co-operation of foreign officials in China, of scholars and all other interested persons is desirable in order to create a respect for Chinese antiquities, monuments, etc., and promote an interest in their preservation. China is undefended against the iniquities of vandalism and is the only important nation remaining to discover the need of protection and care of public monuments.

Mr. Frederick McCormick, correspondent of the Associated Press at Peking, who is secretary of the committee, writes that already much has been done. Throughout China warning posters have been put up in public places, and in several localities the Chinese officials have taken the matter up. Furthermore, it having been brought to the attention of the Navy Department that the offenders in some instances were American sailors, an official inquiry is being made and steps taken to prevent such action in this quarter henceforth. Among the supporters of the movement are the British, Russian, French, and Spanish ministers at Peking, and many prominent Americans, both resident and non-resident.

"THE BETTER CITY" Under the title "The Better City" the Metropolitan Improvement League of Boston has issued a bulletin which gives a brief résumé of its activities and constitutes an appeal for further support. This League was organized five years ago and is the parent, as it were, of the Metropolitan Improvement Commission. It has, among other things, induced the Boston Elevated Railway Company to adopt a higher standard of art in the designing of new structural work, superintended the selection and location of statues and other sculpture in public parks, advocated the planting of trees on the islands in the harbor, secured an appropriation for the improvement of Copley Square, and vigilantly held in check public outdoor advertising.

THREE In Gloucester, Mass., Ft. PROGRESSIVE Worth, Tex., and Los TOWNS Angeles, Cal., concerted effort is being made to secure permanent art galleries. A committee has the work in charge in Gloucester—the same committee under whose direction the great pageant, in which two thousand Gloucester folk took part, was given last August. The pageant was, in fact, to raise a fund for this specific purpose. In Ft. Worth the project is being fostered by the Public Library. Los Angeles is of all the most ambitious, including in its scheme not one building but a group. A little booklet describing what is wanted and projected, has just been issued as a Message from the Fine Arts League of this city, the object of which is "to found and maintain for the public good an institution which shall be primarily a home of the Fine Arts, including music and poetry."

"THE ARTS AND CRAFTS" The Annual Conference of the National League of Handicraft Societies was held in Baltimore on October 22d and 23d. Professor Warren, the president, made the opening address. The secretary's report gave details in regard to the